

| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| | 09/195,897 | CHUN ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Samir A. Ahmed | Art Unit 2623 | |

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address—

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to interview summary on 1/4/05 & 2/22/05.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/578,142.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 2.

Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

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3/4/05

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for the following Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Harold Nissen (reg. # 17,283) on 1/4/05 and 2/22/05, acting as applicants representative, authorized the following amendment:

Please amend the claims as follows:

In claim 1, after "part" on line 8, please insert --having an output transform coefficient distribution signal --.

In claim 1, after "having" on line 10, please delete [the] and insert -- said--.

In claim 1, after "of" on line 11, please delete [an] and insert --said--.

In claim 2, after "has" on line 6, please delete [the] and insert -- said--.

In claim 2, after "of" on line 7, please delete [an] and insert --said--.

In claim 2, after "part" on line 8, please delete [.] and insert --; and--

In claim 8, after 'signal' on line 6, please insert -- having an output transform coefficient distribution signal --.

In claim 8, after "with" on line 11, please delete [the] and insert -- said--.

In claim 8, after "of" on line 12, please delete [an] and insert -- said --.

In claim 8 after "with" on the last line, please insert --existence or none existence of--.

Drawings

3. Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5A-5F, 6, 7A-7C, 8A-8E should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
4. New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because the text is too small. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsperson outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the instant invention is directed to a method and apparatus for object based coding. The closest art Sikora et al., "Shape-adaptive DCT for generic coding of video", discloses carrying a shape adaptive transform for texture information of input image signal, based on shape

information, forming a binary coefficient mask and scanning an output from the shape adaptive transform (see Fig. 1). The limitations "a shape-adaptive scan control part for forming a binary coefficient mask having said same transform coefficient distribution as that of said output signal from said shape-adaptive transform part, and generating a scan control signal in accordance with existence or nonexistence of a transform coefficient based on said binary coefficient mask" recited in claims 1, and 8, in combination with the other elements of the claims are not disclosed or suggested by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Claims 1-16 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samir A. Ahmed whose telephone number is 703-305-9870. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30am-6:00pm.

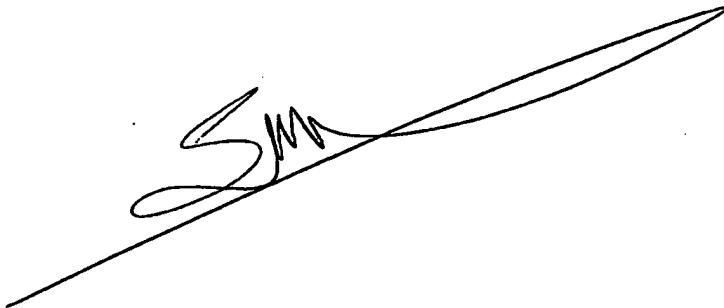
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on 703-308-6604. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SAMIR AHMED", is written over a diagonal line.

SAMIR AHMED
PRIMARY EXAMINER